

Perspectives on Employment of Persons with Disabilities

December 6 - 8, 2006

Hyatt Regency Bethesda

Bethesda, Maryland



Perspectives on Employment of Persons with Disabilities is sponsored by:

- Department of Agriculture ■ Department of Defense ■ Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Labor ■ Department of Veterans Affairs
- Environmental Protection Agency ■ Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Conference support services provided by the Graduate School, USDA



For 25 years, the Perspectives on Employment of Persons with Disabilities Conference has given federal managers an edge in recruiting, hiring and retaining qualified employees with disabilities. This 25th Annual Perspectives Conference offers you new and updated information on personnel policies and practices, developments in technology, legal updates, and resources that will assist your agency in finding its edge to achieve its goals.

Date and Schedule

The conference will be held December 6 - 8, 2006, at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda, One Bethesda Metro Center, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. The conference desk will be open at 7:30 a.m. on December 6. Conference materials should be picked up at that time. The general session and workshops will be held December 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; December 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and December 8 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Speakers

Key officials and experts knowledgeable in the employment of persons with disabilities will address conference attendees at keynote and general sessions throughout the conference. Confirmed keynote speakers include The Honorable Christine Griffin, Commissioner, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Mike Aronin, Speaker, Author, Actor, Comedian; Diedre Davis, Director, Americans with Disabilities Act Services, Walmart Stores, Inc., and Juliette Rizzo, Miss Wheelchair America 2005.

Accommodations

The Hyatt Regency Bethesda has a block of rooms reserved for those who identify themselves as Perspectives Conference participants. The rate is \$210.56 (\$188 + 12% tax) single and double, including tax. These rooms are reserved on a first come, first served basis. To make reservations, call the hotel on (301) 657-1234. **Please reserve by Nov. 22, 2006.**

Transportation and Parking

The hotel is at the Bethesda Station of the Metro Red Line at the corner of Wisconsin Avenue and Old Georgetown Road. It is south of the Capital Beltway (I-495) exits on Old Georgetown Road and Rockville Pike and south of the I-270 exit on Old Georgetown Road. Pay parking is available.

Program

Persons accomplished and recognized in the field will present workshops on timely and pertinent subjects. Most workshops will be repeated so that participants can attend the sessions of their choice. These topics include:

- Accommodating Blind Employees in the Workplace
- Accommodating Deaf Employees in the Workplace
- Accommodating Employees with Learning Disabilities
- Accommodating Employees with Psychiatric Disabilities
- Comparing the Requirements of the Rehabilitation Act with FECA

- Demonstration of Assistive Technology
- Disabled Veterans Reemployment Initiatives
- Disability Etiquette
- Ergonomics: Preventing Workplace Injuries
- Increasing Employment of People with Disabilities
- Medical Exams/Inquiries, Safety and Direct Threat
- Overview of the Rehabilitation Act and the ADA
- Reasonable Accommodation Process
- Reasonable Accommodation: Legal Update
- Section 508 Update
- Shattering Attitudinal Barriers
- Social Security Administration Programs and Resources
- Special Hiring Authorities
- Vocational Rehabilitation System
- You've Just Been Appointed Disability Program Manager

Sign Language interpreters will be available throughout the conference.

Registration

The fee for the conference is \$400. This includes the registration fee, lunches on Wednesday and Thursday and brunch on Friday.

Your completed registration must be received by December 1, 2006. It is your responsibility to ensure proper registration. A confirmation letter will be mailed upon receipt of both the registration form and payment or a training request form. Cancellations must be received in writing by December 1, 2006, in order to avoid being billed for attendance at the conference. Substitutions may be made in advance.

To register, please mail the registration form on the next page (photocopies of the form are acceptable) along with the appropriate training request form or payment to:

Graduate School, USDA
Training and Events Management Department
600 Maryland Ave., SW, Suite 270
Washington, D.C. 20024-2520

Register online at www.grad.usda.gov/perspectives

THERE WILL BE NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION AT THE CONFERENCE.

If you have questions about registration, contact:
Isabelle Howes at the Graduate School, USDA
Voice or TTY (202) 314-4713
Fax (202) 479-6801
isabelle_howes@grad.usda.gov

Perspectives on Employment of Persons with Disabilities Conference

Conference Date: December 6-8, 2006

Conference Registration Form

IMPORTANT: To ensure proper registration, please print clearly and fill out completely.

Full payment must be received with this form to process your registration. Conference Fee: \$400.

Please Print

First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

(as you want it to appear on the badge)

Department/Agency _____

Bureau /Administration _____

E-Mail (please print legibly) _____

Address _____

Room/Suite _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Office Phone () _____ Office Fax () _____

Is this a TTY number? Yes No

Please indicate means of payment

____ Please charge my ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Diners Club ☐ American Express

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Cardholders Name _____

____ Purchase order/training authorization attached (Please include a copy of your authorization form.)

____ Check attached (Made payable to Graduate School, USDA (Federal ID #53-0196561))

Please indicate which meal functions you will attend. If you don't make a selection, we assume that you are not staying for meals.

December 6, Luncheon Yes No

December 7, Luncheon Yes No

December 8, Brunch Yes No

Please note any special accommodations that you may need. Be specific.

Special Meals: ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Kosher

Special Needs: ☐ Assistive Listening Device ☐ Braille ☐ Large Print ☐ Sign Language Interpreter

Other Needs: (Be Specific) _____

Mail Directly To:

Fax To: (202) 479-6801

Graduate School, USDA

Training and Events Management Department

600 Maryland Ave., S.W., Suite 270

Washington, D.C. 20024-2520

Confirmation of your registration will be mailed within three business days of receipt of this form and your payment.

Hotel Reservations

Perspectives on Employment of Persons with Disabilities

For reservations call the Hyatt Regency Bethesda at (301) 657-1234. Reservations must be made by **Nov. 16, 2006**. Reservations received after this date will be accepted on a space and rate available basis only. First night deposit on major credit card required for any arrival after 4 p.m. **Rates:** (including all taxes) \$210.56 Single/Double.

Guarantee Information

A guaranteed payment assures you that a room will be held for your day of arrival. The room will become available for re-sale if you have not registered by 6 a.m. the following morning. You will be billed for the first night's room if the reservation is not cancelled by 4 p.m. (EST) on the scheduled day of arrival. Please ask the clerk for a cancellation number.

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If addressee is no longer at this address, please forward to the appropriate internal manager.